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MISCELLANY.

Petitions for Rehearings.—Since the rehearings noted at p. 875 of the last volume, a rehearing has been granted in *Woolfolk v. Graves*, 69 S. E. 1039, 17 Va. Law Reg. 76.

The Institute of International Law.—The Institut de Droit International, which has just been holding its conference at Madrid, is the most distinguished of the various associations of jurists and publicists which are engaged in the work of preparing and formulating the law binding upon the Society of nations. Founded in 1873 "to transform the society which exists *de facto* between nations into a society of law," it consists of the acknowledged masters of the science and practice of international law in the chief countries. Its members and associates are limited alike to sixty persons, and such is the reputation which its resolutions command that most of them have passed into the conventional law of nations. It is, indeed, primarily to the Institute that we owe the remarkable development of the jural relations between States during the last thirty years. At its first conference in 1874 the Institute drew up a project for settling the arbitral procedure between nations, which has largely passed into the Hague Conventions on the subject, and has been the basis of the striking progress of international arbitration. At its second and subsequent meetings it prepared draft codes of the laws of war on sea and land, which have likewise passed in great measure into the International Conventions of the Hague and the Declaration of London. At the meeting in Paris of 1910, the Institute appointed a Commission to consider and select the topics which might most usefully be considered as a prelude to the third Peace Conference to be held at the Hague in 1915, and to organize their discussion. The experiences of the last Hague Conference proved the desirability of a preliminary consideration of the proposals to be submitted to the international assembly, and unofficially the Institute is recognized as the proper body to undertake the initial survey. Hence on this side of public international law the meetings of this and subsequent years will largely be taken up with the questions of compulsory arbitration, the limit of territorial waters, the undecided points in the law of belligerents and neutrals, and the law of the air, on which it is desired to focus attention at the Parliament of the Nations in 1915. The Institute, in fact, plays the part in the making of the *Jus Gentium* which the great jurisconsults at Rome played in the development of the *Jus Civile*; and the authority for its work resides in the growing force of reason and humanity.